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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE
PICTURE STORY 233 MAY 1971

While Mother Works...



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ON THE COVER: A mother drops her child off at the day care center on the way to work (1170B1069-1); children on the center's playground are framed by sculptured play equipment (1170B1068-34); a glass of milk washes down a nutritious lunch (1170B1070-35). BELOW: A young working mother says good-bye to her daughter at the center (1170B1069-14). These photos, and the others in this story, were taken at the Hyman Blumberg Child Day Care Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Considered to be the largest licensed child day care center under one roof in the country, it has 20 classrooms and a capacity of 300 children from 2 to 6 years of age. Operated by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America union, the center participates in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Special Food Service Program.



WORKING MOTHERS--now 35 million need for day care facilities; a growing number of families; and a larger segment of industry need will increase.

To help meet this developing need, mother members, like the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, as well as other organizations, operate child day care centers. Food help from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, December 1970, had reached 3,146,000 children through the program administered by its food and nutrition assistance.

The Special Food Service Program is linked to the National School Lunch Program to improve the nutritional status of both programs.

Under the program, eligible public institutions which provide day care for low-income groups, or from areas where USDA-donated foods are not available, receive USDA-donated foods as well as foods purchased. Technical guidance and equipment needed are provided. Participating centers serve meals which meet nutritional standards set by the Department of Agriculture. The program provides price meals to children unable to pay for their meals.

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A Place for Fun-

WORKING MOTHERS--now 35 million strong--have created a vast need for day care facilities for pre-school children. Since a growing number of families are seeking a second income, and a larger segment of industry is employing women, this need will increase.

To help meet this developing need, unions with large working mother members, like the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, as well as other organizations, are establishing child day care centers. Food needs for many are provided with help from the U.S. Department of Agriculture which, as of December 1970, had reached 3,250 centers and helped feed 146,000 children through the Special Food Service Program administered by its food and Nutrition Service.

The Special Food Service Program authorized by an amendment to the National School Lunch Act, is aimed at improving the nutritional status of both pre-school and school age children.

Under the program, eligible public and non-profit private institutions which provide day-care for children from low income groups, or from areas with many working mothers, can receive USDA-donated foods as well as cash reimbursement for foods purchased. Technical guidance, and financial aid to buy or rent equipment needed for a feeding program, are also provided. Participating service institutions must agree to serve meals which meet nutritional standards prescribed by the Department of Agriculture, and to supply free or reduced price meals to children unable to pay the full charge.

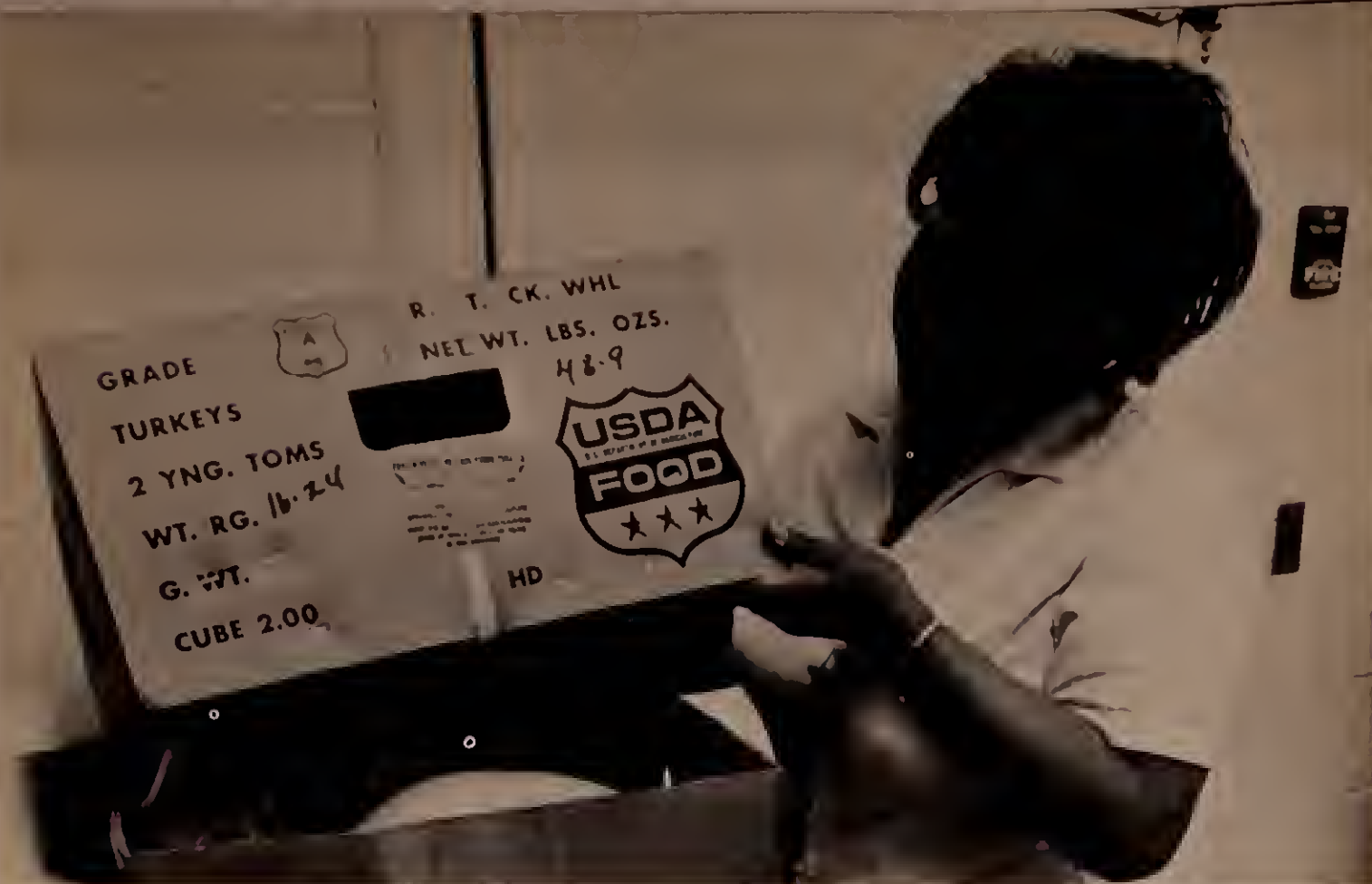
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LEFT: The Hyman Blumberg Child Care Center is built around a well-equipped outdoor play area where children are shielded from city traffic (1170B1071-33). BELOW LEFT: Classroom activities help prepare the children for elementary school programs. The day care center seeks to offer each child as many varied opportunities for physical, mental, and emotional development as possible (1170B1067-17). BELOW: Balanced, nutritious, hot meals are served each day (1170B1070-21).

-Learning Experiences-





ABOVE: A box of USDA-donated turkey is opened at the day care center. Donated food and financial assistance for food purchases are provided under the Special Food Service Program (1170B1067-20). LEFT: Hot food is served by the teacher. Meals must meet minimum nutritional standard set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (1170B1070-9).



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Mealtime at the Hyman Blumberg Child Day Care Center (1170B1070-33) is often followed by a nap (1170B1072-13). Mothers pay \$5 per week to send their children to the center.

